

Application No. 10/750,418  
Amendment dated January 12, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2005

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A cabinet having an enclosed interior space for storing surface mount devices in an environment of low relative humidity comprising; ~~a desiccator~~, a nitrogen generator ~~or both~~ associated with said cabinet and transportable therewith, means to receive a supply of compressed air communicating with ~~said desiccator or said nitrogen generator or both~~ and means to direct a dry gas stream from ~~said desiccator or said nitrogen generator~~ into the interior of the said cabinet to maintain a low humidity environment in said interior space.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) The cabinet of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein said nitrogen generator comprises a membrane capable of separating air to form a concentrated nitrogen gas stream.

Claim 4 (original) The cabinet of claim 3, wherein said membrane comprising a polymeric membrane.

Claim 5 (original) The cabinet of claim 4, wherein said membrane is a hollow fiber polymeric membrane.

Claim 6 (original) The cabinet of claim 3, comprising a plurality of said membranes

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Claim 7 (currently amended) The cabinet of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein said nitrogen generator comprises a particulate adsorbent capable of adsorbing one or more components of air and form a concentrated nitrogen gas stream.

Claim 8 (original) The cabinet of claim 7, wherein said concentrated nitrogen gas stream is formed by a pressure swing adsorption system.

Claim 9 (currently amended) The cabinet of claim 1, further comprising a including said desiccator.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (currently amended) The cabinet of claim 1, wherein said ~~desiccator~~ and/or nitrogen generator is an integral part of said cabinet.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The cabinet of claim 11, containing a flow controller to vary the volume of said dry gas stream directed into the interior of said cabinet.

Claim 13 (currently amended) The ~~cabinet of claim 1, further containing~~ A cabinet having an enclosed interior space for storing surface mount devices in an environment of low relative humidity comprising: a desiccator, a nitrogen generator or both associated with said cabinet and transportable therewith, means to receive a supply of compressed air communicating with said desiccator or said nitrogen generator or both, and a storage means for storing said dry gas stream from said desiccator, said nitrogen generator or both and means to direct a dry gas stream from said storage means ~~desiccator or said nitrogen generator~~ into the interior of the said cabinet to maintain a low humidity environment in said interior space.

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Claim 14 (original) The cabinet of claim 1, further including a filter to remove particulates from said compressed air received from said supply.

Claim 15 (currently amended) A method of storing surface mount devices in the interior of a cabinet and maintaining a low relative humidity in the interior of said cabinet comprising: directing a supply of compressed air to ~~a dry gas forming means in the form of a desiccator or~~ a nitrogen generator associated with said cabinet and transportable therewith, forming ~~a dry air gas stream or~~ a dry nitrogen gas stream from said nitrogen generator ~~dry gas forming means~~ and directing said ~~dry air or~~ dry nitrogen stream into the interior of said cabinet so as to maintain a low relative humidity in the interior space of said cabinet while storing said surface mount devices.

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 16~~ claim 15, wherein said dry nitrogen gas stream is formed by membrane separation of said compressed air stream by said nitrogen generator.

Claim 18 (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the relative humidity in the interior of said cabinet is maintained at 5% or less.

Claim 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein said nitrogen generator ~~dry gas forming means~~ is an integral part of said cabinet.